

The Weekly News

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ADVERTISERS in The Weekly News are the best business men in the community. Their announcements are worth reading, and they are the firms with whom to trade most advantageously.

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ZELAYA BEHIND THE TIMES

Power does not come by butchery in this 20th century. Under Zelaya's rule no one was safe, native or foreigner, and it is well that the United States make it plain to such a ruler.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The dignified and rather sober tone of the President's message, and his bright outlook into the country's future in business expansion and commerce makes a favorable impression on the business trust busting will be indulged in by men of the country. No trust busting will be indulged in and no private fortune disturbed, is in brief his pledge for prosperity.

It might not be out of place to ask the question: What is prosperity? Is a boom in the iron and steel market a barometer of prosperity? And does this constitute prosperity as applied to the masses of the people? We say not. The proper basis for estimation is what the people are compelled to buy and eat and the clothes they must wear. Can we be made to see as common people prosperity when a dollar has such little purchasing power, when millionaires get control of the necessities of life and bent upon getting more.

What shall we call this, prosperity?

THE GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER

How thoughtless we become in our efforts to be thoughtful. If the average shopper should look up from the counter spread with pretty things for Christmas, and glance for a moment at the other side of the table to the girl who is serving, what would be noticed?

While you are waiting for your bundles and fuming and nervous because the girl has occupied a few seconds more than your judgment pronounces sufficient, calm yourself by asking the question, "Does this mean a 'Merry Christmas' for the young clerk?"

Washington is in its busy season. Every woman, man and child seem to take the move at this time. The holiday spirit is in the air everywhere, and the temptation will be to think only of the loved ones and friends regardless of the girl behind the counter.

Christmas brings joy and happiness to many, but to some, it brings aching bodies and nerves unstrung, with a bed as the resting place on Christmas day.

The strain has been severe, the faultfinding trying, the "Hurry up," "Get my change," "Some one waiting for me," has nearly driven them mad.

How shall we remedy such conditions? First, let us shop early. The Christmas goods are here, the stores are overflowing with most wonderful displays. Now for the sake of the girl behind the counter and others affected by the busy traffic at this time, let us shop early.

If we wish to have a merry Christmas ourselves, in the largest sense shrdluetaohrd rdlu dlu est and best sense, we must see to it that we do not unnecessarily cause others to suffer.

The Consumers League has sent out a list of rules for shoppers, read them, and heed them, and let us all enjoy a Merry Christmas.

Here are the rules:

1. Buy early in the season and early in the day.

2. Send packages two weeks ahead, marked "Not to be opened until Christmas."

3. Minister to actual needs. Give presents chiefly to children.

4. Choose presents having either usefulness or beauty.

5. Demand articles which have been made and sold under conditions fair and wholesome to the worker.

6. Remember that Christmas is of noble memory, not an occasion for display.

OUR RIGHTS

The state serves as a convenient basis for the apportionment of members of both houses of Congress, and State institutions preserve and develop the local individuality and self-reliance of the people.—Peterman.

It is surprising how, that for so long a time the Eastern Section has been without representation in the District's form of government. Why this has been, we cannot clearly ascertain, but the fruits of it appear dlu u the fruits of it are apparent in our Eastern Section everywhere. Look at our streets and sidewalks, and our institutions, and compare them with the Western Section. Note the comparison in the appropriations and see if the rich have not fared sumptuously while the poor have suffered need. Is it not true that if our President would consider the injustice of the division, and grant to our Eastern Section a Representative who by fact of citizenship in this section is qualified to represent the people, words of satisfaction from all parts of the District would be coming forth?

If the principles as applied to the form of government now existing in the District to the states, it would mean that the whole country would become centralized in the National Government, and power would be withdrawn from the people.

PLEASANT PELLETS FOR THE BLUES

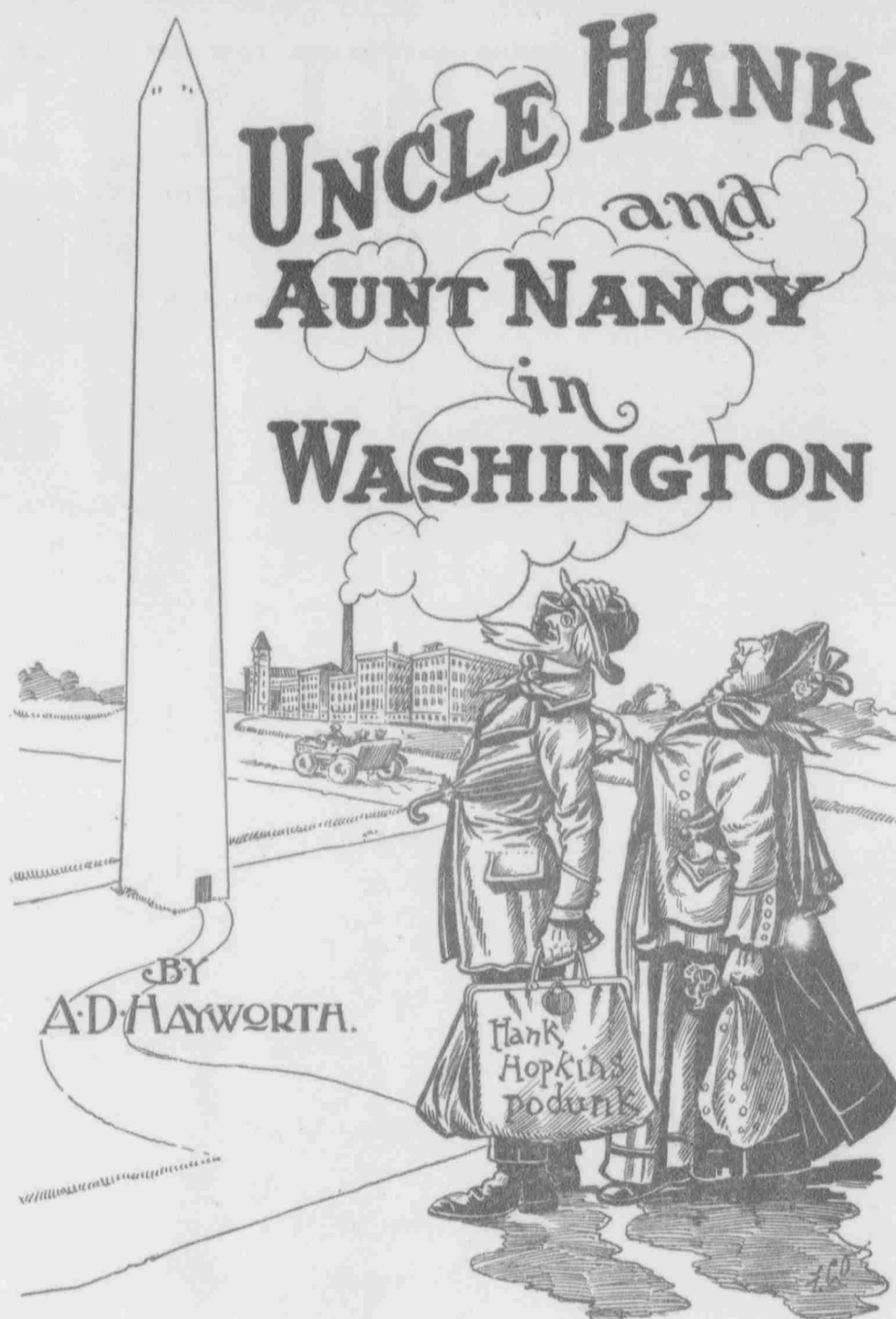
Little Mary wrote a composition on "The Cow." It was brief: "The cow is the most useful animal." Her mother asked her to read it to the minister, when he came in. She did so, but was evidently moved to make the statement less sweeping and read it thus, "The cow is the most useful animal—except religion."

A trained nurse tells this story of a Mrs. Malaprop of Brooklyn: "She was calling on a very sick case of mine, and, like many women, she was unwilling to let any one be sicker than she had been. When the patient had described her symptoms and her sufferings, she retorted: 'I know how you feel. Once I was four days in a state of complete kimona.'—N. Y. Sun.

A minister was once preaching about heaven, and to show the absurdity of Swedenborg's ideas, drew a graphic picture of the supposed Swedenborgian heaven, with beautiful fields, fine horses, cows, etc. In the midst of his glowing description, one of the sisters went into raptures, and shouted, "glory! glory! glory!" This so disconcerted the preacher that he paused, when an elder cried out to the shout: "Hold on there, sister! You're shouting over the wrong heaven!"

A foreigner asked the landlord of his hotel, after paying his bill, "Do I owe anything else?" "No," was the reply, "you are all square now." As he went away, considering the remark, the landlord went on politely: "I hope you will be 'round again soon.' "But I thought you said I was square—and now you hope I'll be round?" The landlord laughed and said, "I mean, I hope you will not be long." The foreigner went away still puzzled, but soon learned enough of American speech to be glad that he had at least not been called a flat.

"That horrid cat!" "What's the matter, girl?" "Oh, the cat went to sleep on my new hat, and I wore her down town and back."—Washington Herald.



CHAPTER I.

Preparing for the Trip.

Ever since I wuz a boy I hed been promisn' myself a trip to Washington—the capital of the nation—but somehow ernuther I never got started tell I wuz nigh onto sixty year old.

I 'lowed I would git ther' a good while ago, but somethin' aluz turned up to keep me frum it. If it wuzn't the craps, it wuz sickness; if it wuzn't sickniss, it wuz bad weather; if it wuzn't bad weather, it wuz somethin' else ez bad.

I 'tended to go last year after the craps wuz laid by an' harvestin' over, but a drouth ruined ever'thing in the fields, an' three of my best hosses died from overwork an' the heat—I cum nigh gittin' sunstruck myself, an' I didn't do nigh ez much work ez my boys.

Jed Simmons, a friend of mine who used to live in Mayville, until Sam Powers the Congressman from our deestriet at that time, got him a place in one of the departments in Washington, often wrote fer me to cum on an' he would show me the sights.

At first I was like a little boy wishin' fer a holiday without much hopes of gettin' it, but I kep' on wantin' an' wishin', an' at last when the craps had been worked fer the fourth time this year, an' as ever'thing hed turned out purty fair, considerin', I told Nancy one evenin', after I hed slopped the hogs an' fastened the bars, thet I jest b'leeved her an' me hed earned a trip to Washington, an' I hed jest cum to the conclusion thet we wuz goin' t' take it.

Nancy knowed all along thet I was sot on goin' an' encouraged me all she knowed how, but she seen as well as I did thet all the encouragement in Vigo county warn't of no use ef we didn't have the spondulix to back thet encouragement up and keep it on its pins.

She wanted me to go alone, as she 'lowed it would double the expenses and then I could see ever'thing so much quicker without her an' git back sooner; thet we needed the money to build a new hogpen; an' several other very good, but weak excuses I wouldn't listen to.

I told her if there warn't money for both, there warn't any for nobody.

Nancy aluz wuz the free-soul'dest body I ever see. If she had anything that wuld make some one else happier than it would her, thay got it.

We've been married goin' on forty year an' if a man don't find out what kind of a wife he has in that len'th of time, he'd—well, the' ought to be a law prohibitin' idjits frum gettin' tied up.

I've seen lots of young fellers in my time what thought they

known more about their wives after courtin' them for a few months then what their parents did that raised them, but in six months after they wuz married the police and divorce courts knowed more about them than their husbands could a found out in forty year.

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After considerable persuadin', I got Nancy reconciled to the plan an' the upshot of it wuz we begun gittin' ready the next day, with hearts so happy and young, thet it 'peared I hadn't felt so good since the night I was married.

When it got reported 'round Podunk township that the Hopkines wuz goin' to Washington, the gossips started their tongues to waggin'.

One wondered why ole Hank didn't paint his house instead uv trapsin' roun' spendin' money jist to look at somethin'; another one wondered why Nancy didn't buy her a set of store teeth instead of goin' off on a sight seein' tower; an' so it went. One would say somethin' bad an' her neighbor would try to say somethin' wuss.

We knowed it was all jealousy, an' didn't pay no more 'tention to it than a duck would in an April shower.

The next mornin' Nancy an' me wuz jest plannin' a trip over tu our darter's at the water mill settlement, 'lowin' to see an' tell 'em all the news before we went, when the best bay colt of my hull passel of hosses, staked himself by jumpin' a ten-rail fence. I declared to goodness, but it du seem jest like ever' time we git ready tu have a day off sumthin' hez got tu happen to knock our plans in the head.

Nancy wuz nigh 'bout sick on ekkount uv it, but I 'lowed it wuzn't nobody's fault but the good Lord's, an' ef he seen fit to put full notions in that dern colt's head an' make it stab itself with a fence stake, why it'ud a-happened enyhow, if we hadn't a-got ready.

I had the hind end of the wagon full uv sacks uv corn I wuz goin' tu git ground—ez I'm powerful fond of corn cakes an' sorghum molasses—an' we 'lowed we'd kill two birds with one dornick, Vizible: Git the corn ground an' stay tu Milly's fer dinner. Milly's man is a purty decent sorto' feller, but he hez hed a good deal uv trouble like the balance uv the human race. They have been married 'bout 'leven year, now, an' they've got nine childrun, an' it's give him a good deal of thinkin' wher' the next meal wuz cumin' frum, sometimes. But Ike hez done fust rate, considerin' an' they're gittin' on better now, then ever before. 'Course a man with nine childrun kain't sleep till 10 o'clock an' expect tu keep out of the poor house any morn' a feller can fool the voters of his party an' expect to be 'lected tu Congress the second time.

Jerry said ther' wuz no use to monkey with the colt—fer us to go ahead, an' him an' Jim Burkybile, thet's our hired hand, would fetch out the two mules an' haul the carcass down in the paster, an' that wud be the end uv thet fool colt.

Thet's jest like Jerry. While he's the best-hearted feller in the world, he don't b'leeve in worryin' over sumthin' which kain't be helped. He's got a heart ez big ez a 20-cent watermelon an' when it comes to down right solid hoss-sense fer managin' things on a farm, he hez no equals in the business. I've been told by friends, that Jerry tuk after me fer the hoss-sense.

We left Jerry an' Jim to drag the colt off an' sot out fer the water mill settlement, 'long 'bout ten o'clock, 'spectin' tu git ther' by dinner time. It wuz a grand day. Nancy wuz all dressed up in a bran' splinter new figgered caliker dress which she got in a trade fer two dozen eggs at Jones' great department store up on the knoll. She hed loaned out our soap kittle fer three days to Ole Mandy Smith fer helpin' her make up the dress; an' ever'body 'lowed Nancy wuz the best dressed womein in Podunk township fer quite a spell after thet, till Betsy Flathers got a yeller flannel suit with pink stripes runnin' 'round it, when Nancy traded places with Betsy as bein' the best dressed up. Nancy 'lowed Betsy might a give a dozen or so more eggs fer the yeller flannel, but the way it wuz made up wuz enough to ruin it. Ole Mandy wuz considered by the oldest

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